(c) and (d) The following new proposals were sanctioned to the Government of Tamil Nadu during the year 2004-05:

(a) Signages at Mamallapuram

(b) Mamallapuram Dance Festival

(c) Eco Tourism Circuit

(d) Development of Yercaud Hill Resort

(e) Rural Tourism Projects at Karaikudi (Sivasagar Distt.) and at Kazhugumalai (Thoothakudi Distt.)

(f) Development of Mahabalipuram Phase-II.

Development of domestic tourism

4296. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a detailed proposal has been formulated to give boost to the domestic tourism, as reportedly for every 80 foreign tourists visiting India there is only one Indian touring the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the fresh initiatives outlined to promote domestic tourism and present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The number of domestic tourists visiting various parts of India was 309 million during 2003 as against 2.73 million foreign tourists during the same period. Therefore, there are 113 domestic tourists as against 1 foreign tourist visiting India.

Development of Domestic Tourism is a continuous process. Various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Tourism for the development and Promotion of Domestic Tourism such as Attithi Devo Bhavah and Incredible India Campaign, creation of world class collaterals, focussing on growth of hotel infrastructure particularly Budget Hotels, Health Tourism, Night Bazars, enhancement of connectivity through augmentation of air capacity and improving road infrastructure to major tourist destinations, etc. In addition, Ministry of Tourism also extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for infrastructure development in order to give a boost to domestic tourism.